

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief, but important summary of the week's news in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields. It contains information that will benefit the trade union movement.

WHOLE NO. 1046.

LABOR INJUNCTION HARMS FREE PRESS

Washington, April 25.—The principles of free press are involved in the labor injunction, Wm. Green, president A. F. of L., reminded delegates to the convention of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

The trade unionist declared that labor stands for a free press, even though workers may disagree with what is often printed.

"Injunction orders are a transgression upon freedom of the press," said Wm. Green. "Labor's opposition to such orders is based on the principle of free speech. Even the slightest encroachment may prove a wedge which, if unopposed, will permit the passage of the restrictive powers of equity courts. It is but a step from the suppression of the circulation of hand bills, circulars and through the labor press to the suppression of newspapers in the expression of news relating to industrial disputes. It is a step from the vital interest to the press and to labor. Our mutual interests compel labor and the press to stand together in support of the freedom of the press, a cardinal principle of our government's rest."

President Green said trade unionists do not favor the press. They only ask justice and fair play. They will all human interests relating to labor and labor's experiences they cover only that which is pertinent without and in a truthful, just and interesting way, he said.

FEDERAL JOB BUREAU HAS BEEN EXTENDED

Washington, April 25.—The United States Employment Service has been extended to every State. Bureaus in each of these States and in the District of Columbia have been set up. State directors of employment have been appointed to take charge in each of these States.

John A. Alpine, former A. F. of L. vice president, is supervising director and Francis J. Jones is director general. Special directors are being named in each State to take charge of these bureaus: Building trades, and quarrying and mining, agriculture, office and mercantile, marine, seamen and longshoremen; and metal, trades, and clothing and needle trades. Farm service and veterans' bureaus are under the general plan.

The United States directors," said Secretary of Labor Doak, "will be to direct the work of their respective States and to cooperate with State agencies and to work in conjunction with the United States Employment Service. The number of subsidies within any of the States will be determined from time to time as circumstances justify."

There will be a coordinated service throughout the entire country, making available its good offices to those seeking employment and cooperation with free State and local agencies. It will place the Federal Bureau in the broadest sense to care for labor and labor's placement in connection with employers and employees.

"In addition to those already well established bureaus, the new activities of the United States Employment Service will give to the unemployed a service which will afford every opportunity of placing employees in contact with the labor market and to the ready hand from which to draw all the labor power that can carry forward any kind of work."

FAMILY RELIEF COST JUMPED 89 PER CENT

Washington, April 25.—In 100 cities reporting to the Federal Children's Bureau, the amount paid for family relief jumped 89 per cent from 1922 to 1930.

Approximately \$40,000,000 was spent in 1930. This does not include sums expended by missions, municipalities, lodging houses or other agencies providing individuals with temporary shelter of food, nor agencies giving relief only to war veterans.

The proportion of relief cost met by private philanthropy and by the public through taxation proportion met by the public (in 75 cities) was in Detroit, where 84.7 per cent came from public sources.

Washington, D. C., and New Orleans the money was raised by private contributions.

RAILROAD EMPLOYEES SHOW SHARP DECLINE

Washington, April 25.—The Nation's railroads, on February 15, paid a payroll of 1,340,000 men, a decline of 14.7 per cent compared with the same date in 1929.

The Interstate Commerce Commission, in a report of April 25, said the number of employees on the same date in 1929.

The report shows that the largest decline, 19.05 per cent compared with February 15, 1929, and 21.40 per cent as against that date in 1928.

The smallest decline was for 15,914 executives, officials and staff assistants.

The latter category showed a drop of 6.01 per cent compared with 1929, and 5.85 per cent as against 1929.

RAILS CAN'T OWN BUSES

Austin, Tex., April 25.—A railroad company to own a bus interest in a motor car or truck line in Texas is prohibited by the Texas Public Utility Commission, according to Attorney General Alford.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1931

WAGE CUTTERS PRESENT SORRY FIGURE

Low wage business men, economists and financiers present a sorry figure. Some, however, are discreet in their attack on present wage levels. They discuss the inevitability of lower rates, in the hope that this system will eventually be accepted without fastening responsibility on them.

This flank method is called "psychological"—it craftily creates a low-wage sentiment without the authors being discovered.

Wage reducers held a contrary position a few years ago. They gloried in high wages that was necessary for mass production. So-called "high" wages, however, did not keep pace with increasing mass production and the top-heavy structure collapsed.

Millions of workers are unemployed and the nation's history is being scarred by hunger and its allied ills.

These former high wage advocates now cry "to the war extreme." They have no vision or ideal, they accept the philosophy of surrender and are waiting, Micawber-like, "for something to turn up."

They have no plan, except wage cuts. They resort to meaningless phrases and essays to conceal their white flag.

They hope that the depression will create a commodity shortage which will, in turn, end unemployment.

They dare not refer to their former position of high wages to buy mass production. No other citizen denies that a lack of purchasing power has closed the Nation's factories. Low wage business men now profess depths of nothingness when they say that a still lower purchasing power will open the Nation's factories.

These men "have been weighed in the balance and found wanting." They do not possess even a superficial knowledge of things to which they are now turning.

They want returns on their investments, but they refuse to see low wages will intensify present conditions that, if continued, will make payment of principle, as well as interest, impossible.

No thinking citizen will give serious consideration to popton remedies for our nation's debacle.

Low-wage advocates are blind leaders who would land the Nation into a ditch. Organized labor will stand by its philosophy of high wages and shorter hours, and tear down our social structure and make the millions of unemployed a permanent institution.

This will save the consuming men from the ruin that must again prove that its opponents are wrong.

WAGES IS MINOR FACTOR IN MECHANIZED INDUSTRY

It is argued that low wage rates will mean more jobs and that the lowered cost of living will make a less cash wage equal in real pay to the higher wage. This is the latest of a long line of explanations offered by experts.

Continuous advance of mechanization, with its reduction of employment, is the latest of a long line of explanations offered by experts.

We should exert every effort to prevent the passing exigencies of the present from depriving the worker of a share in the profits of mechanization.

Machines produce but they do not buy their own products.

LIVING FORCED TO EUROPE'S BASIS WILL ASSURE PAY OF BANK LOANS

New York, April 25.—A European standard of living for American workers is being predicted by Congressman Snell in a sensational speech at the annual dinner of the St. Lawrence County Society. He predicted that the living standards as "artificial."

Mr. Snell's utterance is significant because he is chairman of the powerful Committee on Rules, that dictates legislation in the National House of Representatives.

The Speaker of the House, recently deceased, and Congressman Tilson, majority leader, together with Mr. Snell, were referred to by the speaker as the "triumvirate."

Mr. Snell's prediction is significant because it is a prediction of the future. It is a prediction that the living standards of the rest of the world are going to be the same level that they are today.

Mr. Snell abandoned the theory that American standards should be the pattern for the rest of the world. He said that the living standards of the rest of the world are going to be the same level that they are today.

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LABOR PARTY WINS: CENSURE REJECTED

London, April 25.—The Labor party won a victory of unexpected dimensions when the House of Commons rejected a motion of censure on the Labor government for failure to solve the unemployment problem.

The motion was presented by the Conservatives. The vote was 251 for and 206 against.

The government was defended by Tom Johnston, recently appointed to the cabinet as secretary of state. He was supported by the Premier, Ramsay MacDonald.

Premier MacDonald declared that the government was not only a party leader and former premier, has changed his mind more times in the last 14 years than any other party leader in the country's history.

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"BILL" REILLY IS DEAD: WAS OLD-TIME UNIONIST

Dallas, Texas, April 25.—William Reilly, old-time member International Typographical Union and publisher Dallas Craftsman, died at his home here today of pneumonia.

He was an I. T. U. member for 15 years.

He is survived by his wife, one son, Wallace C. Reilly, who has been publishing the Craftsman since his father's retirement; a married sister, and his mother.

He was a man of high character and active association with the trade union movement for half a century. After completing his high school education, he was a member of the I. T. U. He was a missionary of trade unionism in a number of States and was also a social standing.

His long life of usefulness service to his fellow citizens of the Southwest was a credit to the I. T. U.

PORTO RICAN KIDNAPERS RAVAGED BY DISEASE

New York, April 25.—The claim that Porto Rican conditions are improving is not sustained by Dr. Crumrine returned from a two-month trip to Porto Rico.

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INCOME TAXES ARE DIVERTED TO PAY SECRET STEEL BONUSES

Newark, N. J., April 25.—The government, and not stockholders, paid the \$100,000,000 bonus to the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, secretly voted to themselves during the last year, said Charles Schwab, chairman of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation.

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REAL WAGES LAST TEN YEARS ONE-HALF LESS THAN OUTPUT

WM. GREEN, President A. F. of L.

CHARITY FOR LABOR RATHER THAN WORK

Minneapolis, April 25.—Charity for labor was urged by large taxpayers at a public hearing on a bill that would permit this city to issue bonds for \$500,000 to build badly needed municipal buildings.

A representative of the Taxpayers' Association, who spoke at the hearing, said it would be cheaper to spend \$1,000,000 for charity than to spend \$500,000 for labor.

O. B. McClellent, anti-union leader, said his statement was received with laughter.

He said that the Community Chest had \$1,500,000 last year, and a woman trade unionist replied that half of this amount had been collected from the poor and fed poor.

LABOR'S RADIO HEARING PLEA IS DENIED BY FEDERAL BUREAU

Washington, April 25.—The Federal Radio Commission reversed its order of the day before granting a hearing to labor's broadcast station WFLC, Chicago.

The labor station asks for a clear channel for its broadcast.

Chicago, and the workers insist that the station be granted a clear channel for its broadcast.

The station is not entitled to such a privilege.

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WAGE BASED ON OUTPUT IS AN EMPLOYERS' AND INDUSTRIAL SAFETY IS URGED IN NEW YORK

Washington, April 25.—Wages based on output, from a theoretical standpoint, is the fairest and most equitable basis of remuneration for employees, but it doesn't work out that way, according to Ethelbert Stewart, commissioner Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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TOO MUCH OUTPUT, SO WAGES WERE CUT

Baltimore, N. C., April 25.—Wages of textile workers have been reduced because they produced too much output, said a representative of the Eastern Carolina division of the Textile Union.

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LABOR BILL SIGNED

Harrisburg, Pa., April 25.—Governor Pinchot signed the Mansfield bill, which awards double compensation to workers who are injured while legally employed. The bill must pay the extra compensation.

Power Trust Isn't Every Field; Aims To Control Popular Mind

Washington, April 25.—"The power trust has spent literally millions of dollars to control public sentiment," said Senator Norris in denouncing exposure of power trust methods by the Federal Trade Commission.

75,000 IDLE AIDED BY SPORTS CARNIVAL

St. Louis, Mo., April 25.—There are 75,000 unemployed in St. Louis, said St. Louis Mayor, Director General Citizens' Committee on Relief and Education, who said that the city is doing everything possible to help the unemployed.

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